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examples of case, statute and code law is very effective, often rendering argument on a given point almost unnecessary. Under the title "The English Law as It Is" contracts in restraint of trade *inter alia* form the basis of discussion, and Mr. Clarke does something towards inculcating a salutary principle into the minds of laymen, viz., concerning the true nature of trusts. A note informs the reader that "the writer looks upon trusts as a further evolution of the laws of trade, which produced corporations—aggregations of wealth, under the guidance of one hand and head—without which our present civilization could never have reached its present industrial development" (p. 162). Unfortunately the author carries his argument on this point no further. The code provisions against such contracts occupy a prominent place in the illustrations. On the general question as to the practicability of exclusive code law the author takes the negative position, and shows that the lesson of experience has taught the impracticability of one code successfully coping with the manifold problems that may arise. He cites, further, the success that has met more flexible code laws, as *ex. gr.*, the English Judicature Act of 1875, in which "no serious attempt was made to codify procedure, but it was provided that the courts might make rules to complete the system." The comment on the effect of the Rules is as follows: "This much, however, may be said, that to all appearances they have worked satisfactorily to the Bench and Bar. At any rate, no such condemnation has been passed upon them by friends and foes alike, as has overtaken the New York Code of Civil Procedure."

To the lawyer, the book will commend itself as one in which a vital problem is impartially treated. None of the advantages of codification are underestimated nor are its disadvantages slighted. The conclusions reached by the author are evidently the result of careful thought and, in so far as a cursory examination can show, valid. From the layman's point of view, however, it appears to the present writer, that the contents of the book will be "Greek," in spite of the perspicacity with which the author has stated his case. But as aforementioned, judgment before trial is premature.

G. F. D.

MANDAMUS CASES DECIDED IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MICHIGAN:
By JOHN W. McGRATH. Detroit: John F. Eby & Co. 1898.

This work contains the mandamus cases reported in the State of Michigan down to January 1, 1898. The editor has so arranged and reported his cases as to be able to cover all questions of jurisdiction and practice, and to include sufficient data from each case to indicate when the writ will and when it will not issue.

The volume contains 1730 cases, with both tabular and topical indexes. The work is so arranged as to amount practically to a digest of the mandamus law in the State, and no doubt will prove very valuable as a book of reference to the practitioner.